

CONFIDENTIAL

for Ramparts

25 May 1967

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Letter of 16 May 1967 from Congressman Donald E. Lukens (R., Ohio) to the Director Concerning NSA

1. On 19 May I conferred with [redacted] on subject letter in view of Mr. Lukens' specific, active, and presumably knowledgeable participation and interest in national student groups. It was [redacted] recommendation that it be handled on a no comment basis.

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2. On 19 May I contacted Representative Lukens' office for an appointment. He was out of town and I visited his office on the day of his return, 20 May. Although he was busy, I spoke with him on his office phone. [redacted] scheduled an appointment to see him at 4:00 p.m., 24 May 1967.

3. On the 24th, the House was still involved in protracted floor discussion of the education bill. Consequently my meeting with Lukens occurred while we walked from his office to the Capitol and about five minutes in the Capitol corridor.

4. I told Mr. Lukens that the detailed type of questions he had asked were discussed solely with the CIA Subcommittees and that this was in keeping with the Director's statutory responsibilities. I explained our desire to be as cooperative as possible and, with the understanding that it should not be attributed to the Agency, I assured him that the students were in no way involved in the intelligence information activities of the Agency; that the Agency did not involve itself in the policy of NSA; that consideration of terminating Agency support to NSA and other organizations had preceded by many years the Katzenbach report and the Ramparts related disclosures; and that the Agency had not and does not make a practice of obtaining deferments for its employees. I also informed Mr. Lukens that the Presidential appointment of the Katzenbach Committee had effectively taken the entire matter out of the Agency's hands and that 31 December 1967 is a close-out date for financial assistance established by the President.

CONFIDENTIAL

5. Mr. Lukens said he was in no way critical of Agency involvement in these activities and was glad to know that consideration had earlier been given to their termination, uttering his belief that it is unrealistic to assume that the Agency could engage in activities of such magnitude without being found out and without a resulting set back of our overall intelligence effort. He seemed to fully appreciate that these activities were imposed outside of the Agency; that the risk of exposure is ever present, and that organizational professionalism, including compartmentalization, minimize the effect on other activities.

6. Lukens said that he was being besieged on this CIA/NSA issue from both the "left and the right." He personally feels that the NSA'ers have greatly overplayed their contributions to the Government and would like to have some written statement which he could use in puncturing their balloon. He said most of the questions in his 16 May letter had been sent to him by two students; but admitted that he, Lukens, had seeded it with a couple of his own. He explained that he has been anti-NSA for a long time and that he has a deep personal dislike for [redacted] because [redacted] was instrumental in stacking the deck against Lukens and others several years ago forcing Lukens to appeal to Ray Bliss, of the Republican National Committee, for funds, all of which would have been unnecessary had [redacted] acted fairly.

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7. I gave Lukens a copy of the Katzenbach report and a list of the membership of the Rusk Committee. I also gave him a copy of the Fascell hearings on H.R. 7484 and a number of the bills which have already been introduced to encourage private participation in international activities. Mr. Lukens thanked me for the material indicating his interest in providing for a nonpartisan mechanism to finance such activities.

8. Lukens appeared genuinely appreciative of our efforts and of our problems. However, he asked that we again review his letter to determine whether we can possibly give him a written response. I said I would take it back for a further review but that I really didn't believe anything positive would ensue. He agreed to review the material I had given him in connection with my thought that possibly it may contain satisfactory and usable answers for his purpose.

9. I advised [redacted] of these developments and he said he would have [redacted] review the letter with particular emphasis on

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the claim that, "A Frederick Houghteling (sp?), now serving as an attorney for CAB, claims he received \$12,000 in 1950 when he was executive secretary for the National Students Association." and be back in touch.



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